

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:

1. A rotary developing apparatus having a plurality of developing devices mounted along an outer periphery of a cylindrical rotary unit, said rotary developing
5 apparatus comprising:

a first gear train for connecting said rotary unit to a drive source to rotate said rotary unit;

a second gear train for connecting a developing device revolved and stopped at a developing position, as a
10 result of said rotary unit being rotationally driven, to said drive source to drive said developing device; and

drive switching means for switching between said first gear train and said second gear train to connect either of them to said drive source.

15 2. A rotary developing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first gear train connects said drive source to an input gear of said rotary unit through a rotary drive gear, and said second gear train connects said drive source to an input gear of the developing
20 device through a development drive gear.

3. A rotary developing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said drive switching means is a switching solenoid for switching between connection of said drive source through said rotary drive gear and connection of
25 said drive source through said development drive gear.

4. A rotary developing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said drive switching means includes a rotary unit clutch for connecting said drive source to the input

gear of said rotary unit, and a development clutch for connecting said drive source to the input gear of said developing device.

5 4, wherein said development clutch is a one-way clutch.